

of her duty. I asked him where were the Virginia
troops in this war? He replied, "Echo answers where!"
(This remark however, must not get into the newspapers.)
If she will only hold still, perform the duty of allies
and furnish the battle ground. The more southern
states will fight the battles and pay the expenses
of this our second "War of Independence".

If this war had not taken from me all my
descriptive powers, I would certainly attempt to give
you "penelings by the way; but I assure you there is
so little poetry in Camp life that I fear by the time
my service expires I will prove to be a regular old
soldier and be able to state only matters of fact and
converse with friends only in monosyllables.

I believe I wrote you what a nice time we had
in Augusta. But I wrote before the good Citizens had
half extended their hospitality. Every variety of pro-
visions were sent into us in boundless profusion during
the whole day - substantives and elegant luxuries -
the citizens, males & females, visited us - and after the
feast had been enjoyed and the hour had arrived
for us to take up the line of march for the depot,
scores of little girls, just from evening Sabbath school,
headed by their instructor and accompanied by hundreds
of parents and friends paid us a call and sang
three or four appropriate sacred hymns. In reply
to which your humble servant, as senior Capt. of the Battalion,
replied in a speech of fifteen or twenty minutes, which Mr

Somythe the editor of the Field & Fireside, said to a friend
was well timed & felicitous. You will find our arrival
and comments in the Augusta papers of the 1st July -
perhaps Mr Grant can find the paper among his ex-
changes.

I've seen but little of Richmond except as I have
passed through the principle streets on business for the
Company. It seems to be built upon as many hills
as Rome was said to have. The style of Architecture
is rather ancient and the impression made upon my
mind is that they do everything here just as their
fathers did before them. The fact is I understand
that instead of having their City clock struck by
means of mechanism, a man stands and strikes
the bell with a hammer.

The Capitol Square is beautiful, covered with
blue grass, containing a magnificent equestrian
statue of Washington, surrounded by life size
statues of Jefferson, Mason & Patrick Henry - scattered
here and there over the square is an abundance of fine
shade trees and several fountains playing beautifully
in their midst. While walking through these pleasant
grounds, I would have given all I had if you had
only been by my side. Speaking of being with you
I would'nt give one day of blissful pleasure with my
dear wife & children for all the honor and glory that
will be won by both armies in this war. But I don't
want you to suppose I am sick of my bargain and desire
to change my position. You know I only came from con-
viction of duty to defend my native South, and I intend to do it or
perish in the attempt.